

Agenda Item: 2

Date: April 8, 2021

Commission Action Date: April 13, 2021

TO: Arts & Culture Commission**FROM:** Kathryn Dippong Lawson, Recreation Supervisor
Emily Fox, Recreation Manager**SUBJECT:** Review & Recommendation - Public Art Mural located on Wall Street between Cedar Street and East Park Row Avenue**RECOMMENDATION**

This is an action item. It is recommended that the Arts & Culture Commission review and recommend the public art design rendering for the mural proposed on Wall Street between Cedar Street and East Park Row Avenue.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The Community Partnerships Division has received a public art mural application from Westside Community Development Corporation Executive Director Jackie Pearce. The mural is proposed on Wall Street between Cedar Street and East Park Row Avenue and is being funded through local community sources including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The project has been designed to enhance beautification efforts, creative placemaking, and the rich history of the area.

Local artist Cynthia Polk is leading the design and implementation component of the project. She has experience painting public art murals in Ventura, and recently completed a mural on the Westside. In developing the design, Cynthia collaborated with local youth, artists, and the community, ensuring the final design was reflective of the community input and ideas shared. Additionally, local youth and artists will be involved in both shadowing and helping paint the mural.

In the proposed design rendering, the apex of the wall shows a young girl in Día de los Muertos face paint blowing bubbles. Her hair is flowing behind her and transforms into a hawk soaring over local landmarks including the hillsides of Ventura, "Two Trees", and the Ventura Pier. The bubbles flowing north from the young girl's bubble wand are filled with images of the area's rich history and culture, including community amenities such as the Avenue Library and Kellogg Park. The landscape behind the bubbles showcases the Ventura Avenue Corridor.

City staff has reviewed the mural application packet. The application meets eligibility requirements, including documentation of community support, to move to the next phase in the public art mural review process. This phase involves review and recommendation of the artist's design rendering by the Arts & Culture Commission.

Attachments for Review:

- [Attachment A: Mural Location](#)
- [Attachment B: Mural Design Renderings](#)